

WI-491
Parsonsborg Ticket Office
Pittsville
Private

c. 1900

The Parsonsborg Ticket Office, a diminutive board-and-batten frame railroad station dating around 1900, is located on a quiet street on the edge of Pittsville where it was moved after the closing of the rail line in the early 1970s. With its turn of the century date of construction, the ell-shaped ticket office was erected by the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad Company, which acquired the Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad Company in 1894.

Typical of railroad architecture designed for small villages, the ell-shaped structure is sheathed with vertical board-and-batten siding, much of which is original. When the building was moved to its present site, the eaves on three sides were trimmed back to facilitate the relocation.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-491

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Parsonsborg Ticket Office

other _____

2. Location

street and number 34421 West Street not for publication

city, town Pittsville vicinity

county Wicomico

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name _____

street and number 34421 West Street telephone

city, town Pittsville state MD zip code 21850

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court tax map and parcel Map, P.

city, town Salisbury, Maryland liber folio

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District
Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
district	public	agriculture		
x building(s)	x private	commerce/trade	1	buildings
structure	both	defense		sites
site		domestic		structures
object		education		objects
		funerary	1	Total
		government		
		health care		
		industry		
		landscape		
		recreation/culture		
		religion		
		social		
		transportation		
		work in progress		
		unknown		
		vacant/not in use		
		x other: storage		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-491

Name Parsonsburg Ticket Office
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-491

Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
x	good	ruins
	fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Parsonsburg Ticket Office is located at 34421 West Street on the west side of Pittsville, Wicomico County, Maryland. The single-story frame ticket office faces north with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1900, the single-story, ell-shaped frame station is supported on a combination of rockfaced concrete block and brick piers. The exterior is clad in board-and-batten siding, and the medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The roof was modified when the station was relocated to its present side,

The north elevation, which faces West Street, is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The shallow profile four-panel door is framed by a plain surround as are the adjacent windows. The molded battens appear to be original. An off-center brick stove chimney pierces the roofline.

The west gable end is defined by a single two-over-two sash window framed by a plain surround, and original board-and-batten siding covers the wall. The extended eave was cut off the building and the gable end is marked by a fragment of the former hip roof extension. The edge of the roof is finished with an extended eave with an open soffit.

The east end elevation is defined by two bays with two-over-two sash windows lighting the main block as well as the semi-octagonal bay that extends forward from the rectangular structure. The hip roof was cut back on this elevation as well, and a small fragment of the original roof remains in place.

The south side of the station is an asymmetrical elevation with the projecting semi-octagonal bay projecting covered by a semi-octagonal roof. The south face of the semi-octagonal room is pierced by an entrance fitted with a shallow profile four-panel door. The door is topped by a two-light transom. The edge of the roof is finished with an open eave with exposed rafter ends. To the left (west) of the semi-octagonal bay is a portion of the original extended roofline that shelters the south wall, which is pierced by a two-over-two sash window.

The interior was not seen.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-491

Name Parsonsburg Ticket Office

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-491

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy
1800-1899	x architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
x1900-1999	art	entertainment/	landscape architecture	religion
2000-	commerce	recreation	law	science
	communications	ethnic heritage	literature	social history
	community planning	exploration/	maritime history	x transportation
	conservation	settlement	military	other:

Significance dates

Architect

Specific dates

Builder

Evaluation for:

National Register

☒ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Parsonsburg Ticket Office, a diminutive board-and-batten frame railroad station dating around 1900, is located on a quiet street on the edge of Pittsville where it was moved after the closing of the rail line in the early 1970s.¹ With its turn of the century date of construction, the ell-shaped ticket office was erected by the Baltimore, Chesapeake, & Atlantic Railroad Company, which acquired the Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad Company, its lines, and rolling stock in 1894.²

Typical of railroad architecture built in small villages, the ell-shaped station is sheathed with vertical board-and-batten siding, much of which is original. When the building was moved, the extended eaves on three sides were trimmed back to facilitate the relocation.

¹ John C. Hayman, *Rails Along the Chesapeake, A History of Railroading on the Delmarva Peninsula, 1827-1978*, Marvadel Publishers, 1979, pp. 166-67.

² Hayman, p. 93.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-491

Name Parsonsburg Ticket Office

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type: Standing Structure

Category: Ticket Office

Historic Environment: Residential Neighborhood

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Transportation

Known Design Source:

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-491

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
------------	---

organization	Private Consultant
--------------	--------------------

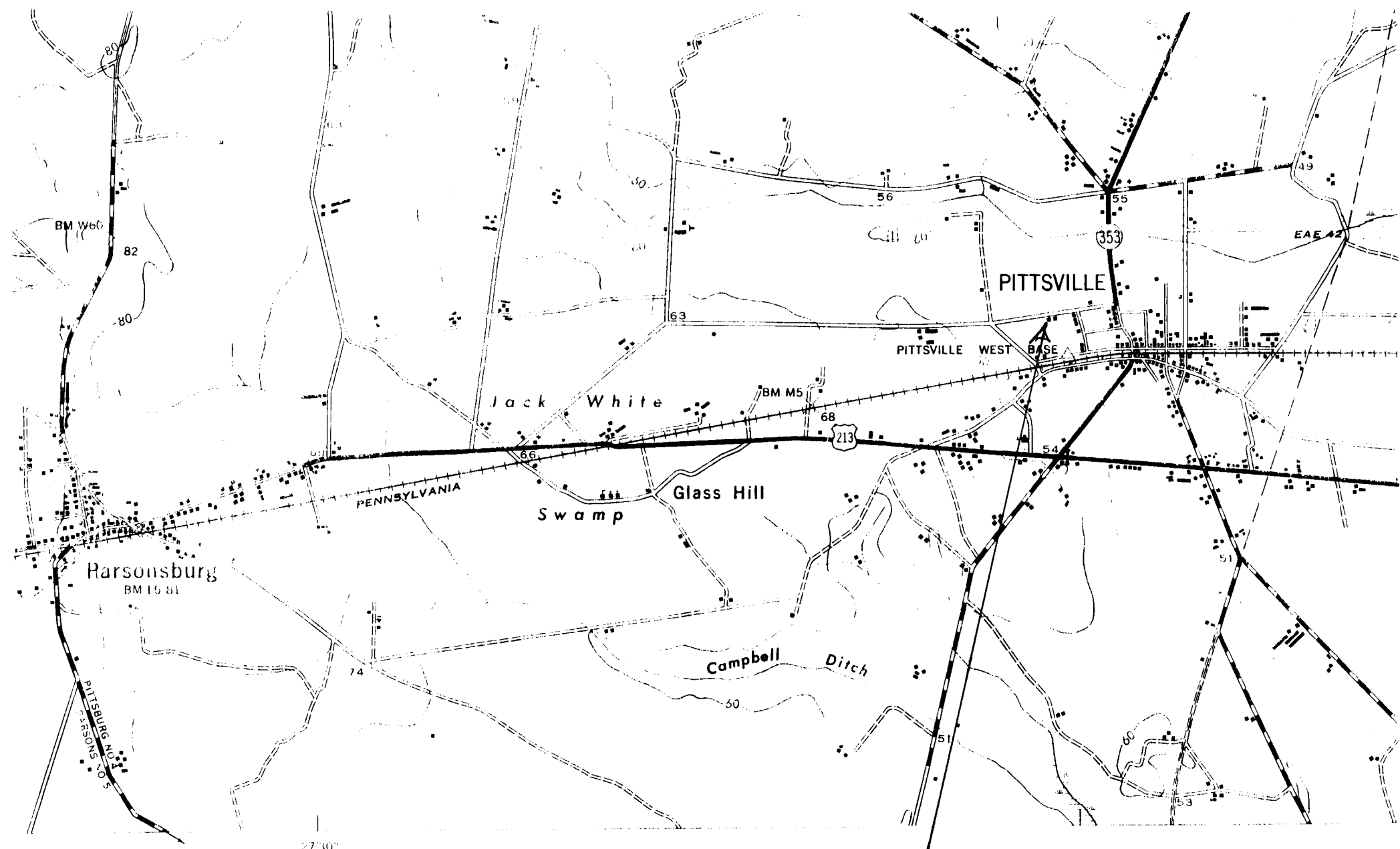
street & number	P. O. Box 5
-----------------	-------------

city or town	Westover, Maryland 21871
--------------	--------------------------

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

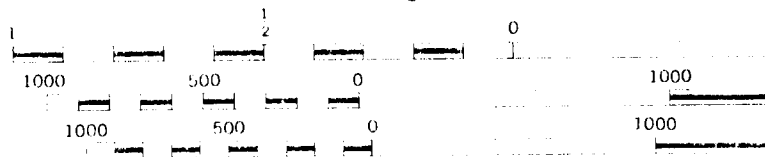
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600



SHAVOX 1.4 MI
WASTE GATE 2.4 MI

27°30'

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

POLYCONIC PROJECTION

1922 NORTH AMERICAN EDITION

WI-491
Parsonsburg Ticket Office

Pittsville, MD. DEL. Quadrangle

U.S. Army,
IV NW, 1947
topography by plane
surveys by